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AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE
APPLICATION BY ADAMAN
MUTUAL WATER COMPANY
FOR APPROVAL TO ISSUE STOCK

Docket No. W-01997A-09-0297

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

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CLOSING BRIEF

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The first issue to be addressed by the court, and to be determine by the court, would seem to be whether a reorganization has indeed occurred or not. The members of the board of the Adaman company, and its counsel, have taken the position that a reorganization has already occurred by virtue of the vote of 4/7/09.

A.R.S. §10-3203 states that an incorporation will become effective upon filing of the incorporation paper or upon its effective date. Although there does not appear to be an A.R.S. specifically addressing the effective date of a reorganization, it would seem logical that when an effective date is included in the instrument submitted to the court that that effective date would seem

1 to determine the date at which the reorganization comes in
2 effect.

3 The second point to be addressed is the
4 inconsistency between the instrument submitted by the
5 applicant in the January 12, '09, and June 12th amendment,
6 that instrument including both an Application for approval
7 to issue stock and exhibits attached to the application.
8 The first exhibit is an agreement and Plan of
9 Reorganization which has four pages. (Exhibit 1)

10 The second page describes an "Effective Time."
11 This "Effective Time" is different than the "Effective
12 Time" which was voted upon and agreed to by the voters on
13 4/7/09.

14 The Agreement, as submitted by the applicant,
15 reads, "This Agreement shall become effective upon the
16 last to occur of: (1) Approval of this Agreement by the
17 Board of Directors; (2) approval of this Agreement by a
18 two-thirds majority of a vote cast by members; or (3) the
19 filing of the Amended and Restated Articles of
20 Incorporation with the ACC (the "Effective Time")."

21 This differs from the Agreement signed by the
22 members either by proxy or at the meeting of 4/7/09.
23 Thus, since the instrument used to substantiate the
24 application is incorrect, it is deemed to be invalid. The
25 Agreement, signed by the membership of the current

1 corporation, included a very significant provision and
2 condition which could not be ignored. (Exhibit 2)

3 This is significant in that the counsel of the
4 board relied heavily upon this condition in order to
5 obtain the vote of the membership, as stated in a
6 memorandum dated April 3rd, 2009, page 3, "In fact, our
7 legal counselor has told us that the ACC must approve the
8 Plan of Reorganization before it can be implemented.
9 Consequently, if the plan is approved, we will submit the
10 Plan to the ACC for its approval." (Exhibit 3)

11 We hold that no individual person, no group of
12 persons, as well intended as they may be, can devine what
13 a person's vote would have been, had that condition not
14 been part of the agreement. The right to vote is a
15 quasi-sacred right, and a voter has the right to know what
16 they are voting for and what conditions do or do not exist
17 upon that vote. Once a condition has been placed upon the
18 vote, it cannot retroactively be removed without a new
19 vote occurring.

20 Thus, on that basis, we hold that the vote held
21 on 4/7/09 cannot be used as a supporting document for the
22 application submitted in January and June of '09. In the
23 same way, since one vote by the voter was a vote for three
24 different issues: A vote for the Plan of Reorganization,
25 a vote for the Restated Articles of Incorporation, and a

1 vote for the new Bylaws, we hold that the previous
2 Articles of Incorporation and previous Bylaws continue to
3 exist.

4 In some manner, a confirmation that the Board
5 of Directors seems to agree with the above is the fact
6 that in violation of the Proposed Restated Articles of
7 Incorporation, no corporate audit has been performed for
8 the 2009 year. Further, Adaman Mutual Water Company did
9 not file corporate taxes in April of 2010, but rather
10 filed the 990 nonprofit forms.

11 In further contest to the vote, we submit the
12 fact that a signature is normally held to be valid for a
13 period of one year. At this time, without completion of
14 the reorganization, we are approximately 17 months after
15 the vote of 4/7/09.

16 In addition, a substantial number of votes had
17 been obtained by proxy votes. (Exhibit 4)

18 A.R.S. §10-3724, paragraph C, states that the
19 appointment of a proxy is effective for 11 months unless a
20 different period of time is expressly provided in the
21 appointment form per se. Thus, the purpose of the votes
22 submitted by proxy, 4/7/09, not having come to fruition by
23 September of 2010, some 17 months after the submission of
24 the proxy votes, these votes are held to be invalid. As
25 in the case of votes cast in person on 4/7/09, these votes

1 were also submitted subject to the agreement described
2 above and, thus, these ~~proxy~~ ^{as well as the proxy votes} votes cannot be used to
3 substantiate the applicant's request for issuance of
4 stock.

5 The vote of 4/7/09 is further undermined by
6 noncompliance with A.R.S. §10-3721 which specifies "unless
7 the Articles of Incorporation or bylaws provide otherwise,
8 each member is entitled to one vote on each matter voted
9 on by the members." A.R.S. §10-3708, paragraph D,
10 section 2, specifically states that in the case of a
11 written ballot, the ballot shall "provide an opportunity
12 to vote for or against each proposed action." The
13 membership was not given the option of voting for or
14 against the Plan of Reorganization, for or against the
15 Restated Articles of Incorporation, or for or against the
16 new bylaws.

17 In this way, the voters were coerced to vote
18 not only for a Plan of Reorganization, which the
19 electorate had been told was necessary, but to also vote
20 for Restated Articles of Incorporation and new bylaws
21 which many did not agree with.

22 However, having been told vociferously by the
23 board's counsel that this was the only way that any fund
24 could be distributed to the membership upon dissolution of
25 the company, many voters opted to vote for the package

1 rather than receiving nothing at all.

2 Even though these matters were related, i.e.,
3 the Plan of Reorganization and the Articles of
4 Incorporation and bylaws, agreement with one should not
5 necessarily infer agreement with the other. In this case,
6 no option was given to the voters, in violation of the
7 above-named statutes for written ballots and proxy
8 ballots.

9 Indeed, this was a major point of dissession at
10 the meeting of 4/7/09, with many attendees requesting of
11 Mr. Brophy that they receive their share of the company
12 equity upon dissolution. Mr. Brophy vehemently denied
13 that anyone had any right to any distribution, whatsoever,
14 upon dissolution of the company.

15 The applicant uses §10-11003 to support its
16 application. Paragraph 4 of that statute states that the
17 members' meeting will occur in accordance with §10-3705.
18 There are other contingencies which attach to §10-11003,
19 pertaining to the meeting per se. Some of these legal
20 obligations have been specifically and willfully violated
21 by the board.

22 In particular, A.R.S. §10-3720 mandates that a
23 members' list be maintained, including name, address, and
24 number of votes allowed per member (not number of acres
25 owned, but number of votes recognized by the board).

1 Further, a member or member's agent or attorney may
2 inspect and copy the list during regular business hours at
3 the member's expense.

4 This was specifically denied, upon a verbal and
5 written request, prior to the meeting of 4/7/09. In
6 response to the request, ^{same} ^{in 2010} a list of parcel numbers and
7 number of acres, as well as the name of the owner was
8 provided. ^{in 2010.} At least 50 percent of these parcel owners are
9 commercial entities and yet it is not stated whether all
10 of these commercial entities were allowed to vote or not. (Exh. 5)

11 There are two issues to be addressed here:
12 First of all, adherence to §10-3720 is not elective, it is
13 a law. At the hearing, Mr. Dave Scofield, speaking for
14 the Board, indicated that, for reasons of privacy or any
15 other reason, the board did not feel that they should
16 release contact information.

17 Even though the purpose of obtaining the list
18 was made clear, in particular, that it was not for
19 commercial use, but rather for communication among
20 members, as indicated in §10-3720, an appropriate list was
21 specifically denied. Thus, it has been impossible for us
22 to know whether our board members, who all own large
23 commercial ventures on the land for which they claim
24 votes, i.e. Mountain Shadows Dairy, Evercrisp Vegetable
25 Company, Evercrisp Cooling (same owner as Evercrisp

1 Vegetable Company), Wildlife World Zoo, et cetera, are
2 eligible to vote legally.

3 At the hearing, Mr. Scofield announced to all
4 of us, who were unaware of this, that the Board of
5 Directors had apparently filed a resolution by which they
6 were going to accept every vote unless that vote was
7 challenged. One, therefore, has to assume that there's a
8 basis for challenge.

9 In November of '08, when I first realized that
10 most of our board members were owners of large
11 corporations and were operating these corporations on the
12 land for which they were claiming votes, I indirectly
13 attempted to find out if commercial entities were allowed
14 to vote, in a letter addressed to the board suggesting "a
15 temporary moratorium on further annexation to the company
16 until we have determined how to deal with large commercial
17 parcels so that one or two commercial entities don't
18 determine the fate of our company." (Exhibit 6)

19 The response I had anticipated was commercial
20 enterprises are not allowed to vote in a mutual water
21 company. I believe this is the same case as exists with
22 at least some of the companies of the Salt River Project
23 conglomerate. However, at the hearing, despite several
24 questions addressed to Mr. Scofield with respect to the
25 eligibility of commercial entities to vote or not, the

1 court was not informed as to whether or not these
2 commercial entities are actually eligible by law to vote,
3 but was told rather that the board had determined that
4 unless a vote was challenged, the board would accept all
5 votes submitted. This would seem to be likely, as the
6 four board members most adamant about this reorganization
7 own commercial enterprises.

8 In passing, one of our directors, Mr. S. A.,
9 who has already moved out of the district and whose land
10 is 100 percent for sale, would normally be leaving the
11 district, taking nothing from it, if the current company
12 were dissolved any time in the future. Under the proposed
13 corporation, however, Mr. S. A. would either buy preferred
14 shares or be given preferred shares, since according to
15 the proposed bylaws, preferred shares can be issued at the
16 will of the board and declared paid in exchange for
17 service or for whatever reason the board decides to
18 declare the shares paid. Mr. S. A., should the company be
19 dissolved in the future would receive part of the equity
20 of the company in the preferred fashion as described in
21 the new proposed Articles of Incorporation.

22 These proposed Articles of Incorporation,
23 Article 11, titled "Dissolution and Liquidation" states
24 "upon dissolution or liquidation of the corporation, the
25 Board of Directors shall ... distribute any and all

1 surplus capital or assets thereof to those persons who are
2 shareholders of the corporation at the time of such
3 dissolution, in proportion to those ownership of shares as
4 to the date dissolution is effective, subject to any
5 liquidation preference granted to the holders of preferred
6 stock." In short, if the company is sold for five to
7 seven million dollars, Mr. S. A., having left the company,
8 would receive a good portion of the benefits of the
9 condemnation.

10 The holders of common stock, those individuals
11 who initially put the company together and financed it,
12 through assessments, as a mutual company, may receive
13 compensation if the board decides to give them any
14 compensation, but they have no rights to any interest in
15 the equity of the company, whereas the holders of
16 preferred shares specifically will have rights to the
17 assets of the company upon dissolution. In fact, this
18 proposed reorganization is nothing but a privatization of
19 profits and a privatization of equity which has previously
20 been held by a nonprofit mutual benefits entity.

21 With respect to privatizing both the profits
22 and the interests of the equity of the company, this type
23 of reorganization is probably the best. However, this
24 reorganization is absolutely not in the best interests of
25 the current shareholders.

1 With respect to "public interest" and the
2 interests of the "company," the Corporation Commission
3 must limit its consideration to the current shareholders
4 of the company, the holders of common stock. We are the
5 members of the company; at this time, the only members of
6 the company, with respect to "public interest," as our
7 operations create no pollution affecting the general
8 public; take nothing from the general assets of the
9 community outside our water company, since our aquifer
10 recharges itself; and since we have operated as an
11 independent, freestanding corporation. Public interests
12 must be defined as the interests of the company and its
13 members as it exists now, not as it is proposed to be
14 changed. The planned reorganization is absolutely not in
15 the interests of either the current members or the
16 company.

17 This reorganization has been sought under
18 misrepresentation of facts of law by Mr. Brophy and
19 Ms. Van Quathem and the members of the board. It is, in
20 fact, actually, perhaps more of a conspiracy to defraud,
21 rather than an attempt to reorganize.

22 Further, even if an attorney general's opinion
23 were to state that this reorganization can be done in this
24 fashion, the attorney general is not the person to
25 determine whether this can be done in a tax-free way

1 according to the IRS -- only the IRS can determine that.
2 Not only is the attorney general's opinion, referred to by
3 the applicant, completely irrelevant to the case at hand
4 but the extrapolation made by the applicant is
5 almost laughable. This decision, issued at the request of
6 the Arizona Corporation Commission, in 1962, states that a
7 for-profit corporation can be legally amended to become a
8 nonprofit corporation. (Exhibit 7)

9 The applicant submits that that being the case,
10 the corollary should be the case, i.e., a nonprofit
11 corporation can be amended to a for-profit corporation.
12 The assumption in the former case would be that the
13 for-profit corporation has paid all of its taxes as a
14 corporate entity -- income tax, capital gains tax,
15 et cetera. As a nonprofit corporation, capital gains are
16 not taxed. In a reorganization from a nonprofit to a
17 for-profit corporation, the assets of the nonprofit
18 corporation are deemed to be income to the new corporation
19 and are normally taxed.

20 With the proposed reorganization, wherein a
21 completely new class of shares is allowed, even though
22 approval for issuance is not requested at this time, the
23 fact that the new class of shares, that being of preferred
24 shares is allowed, takes away from the requirements for
25 tax-exempt status of the reorganization.

1 The current stockholders would be expected to
2 become minority stockholders and their equity in the
3 company is not only diluted, but according to the Proposed
4 Restated Articles of Incorporation are extinguished. That
5 fact, in itself, could be held legally, in the future, to
6 have given the new or proposed for-profit corporation all
7 the rights of a for-profit corporation, including that of
8 issuing preferred shares; ~~and~~ the Corporation Commission
9 would be at a loss to find reason to deny approval of the
10 issuance of preferred shares.

11 As previously mentioned, preferred shares can
12 be sold or given to anyone, within or without our
13 district, in exchange for anything including service or
14 for whatever consideration the board may choose to give
15 its preferred shares to. In fact, these preferred shares
16 represent part of the equity in the company. At this
17 time, the equity in this company is owned completely by
18 the members. Again, the creation of these preferred
19 shares ~~do~~ nothing but transfer ownership of the company to
20 a select few who will be able to either buy or give each
21 other the preferred shares.

22 The Arizona ~~S~~tatutes don't address
23 reorganization of a nonprofit very specifically, other
24 than §10-11008, entitled "Amendment Pursuant to
25 Reorganization", paragraph A, which seems to imply that a

1 reorganization can be done by a court of competent
2 jurisdiction. This could be taken to imply that a
3 reorganization might require a court approval^x. This
4 indeed was the case for many years in most states. A
5 clarification from the attorney general, with respect to
6 this, might be helpful.

7 The **S**tatutes do address mergers, which to some
8 extent have, in the IRS literature, come to mean
9 essentially the same as a reorganization, in that a new
10 for-profit company can be formed and the nonprofit merged
11 into the for-profit corporation. In this case, however,
12 as described in §10-11102 and §10-11103, there are
13 limitations as to the number of members and interests
14 which may emerge as part of the surviving corporation.

15 §10-11101 specifies that one or more nonprofit
16 corporations may merge into a business or nonprofit
17 corporation.

18 §10-11103, paragraph G, (Exhibit 8) states
19 that, unless the Articles of Incorporation otherwise
20 require, action by the members of the surviving
21 corporation in a plan of merger is not required if all of
22 the following conditions exist: (1) The Articles of
23 Incorporation of the surviving corporation will not differ
24 except for the amendments enumerated in A.R.S. §10-1102
25 from the Articles of Incorporation before the merger; and

1 (2) each member of the surviving corporation who was a
2 member immediately before the effective date of the merger
3 will hold the same number of memberships with identical
4 designations, preferences, limitations, and relative
5 rights immediately after the effective date of merger;
6 (3) the number of voting members existing immediately
7 after the merger, plus the number of voting memberships
8 issuable as a result of the merger, will not exceed more
9 than 20 percent of the total of voting memberships of the
10 surviving corporation existing immediately before the
11 merger; and (4) the number of memberships, if any, that
12 entitle the holders of the membership to participate
13 without limitation and distribution existing immediately
14 after the merger, plus the number of participating
15 memberships issuable as a result of the merger will not
16 exceed the total number of participating memberships
17 existing immediately before the merger by more than 90
18 percent.

19 I take that to mean that the number of voting
20 entities or voting members following the merger should not
21 exceed the number of voting members prior to the merger by
22 more than 20 percent and that the total number of
23 memberships (presumably common stock and preferred shares)
24 would not exceed the number of participating memberships
25 existing before the merger by more than 90 percent. In

1 other words, if we have common stock of 2400 at this time,
2 preferred stock should not exceed more than 190 percent of
3 the 2400 of current stock.

4 Returning to the original paragraph of this
5 statute, §10-11103, paragraph G states that unless the
6 above-described four conditions exist, action by members
7 of the surviving corporation would be required. This
8 would imply that the proposed members of the proposed new
9 corporation would have to vote on the plan of merger. If
10 the state and the IRS should recognize this reorganization
11 as a merger, there is no doubt that the members of the
12 surviving company would vote to not approve Articles of
13 Incorporation and bylaws ("action" is not defined), ^{and} but
14 would not approve the issuance of preferred shares in the
15 manner proposed by the board.

16 Indeed, the only way the issuance of preferred
17 shares would make sense and, indeed, an issuance of
18 preferred shares would probably, if done correctly, be an
19 asset to the company, would be if done in the following
20 manner; whereby one preferred share should be
21 assigned/given to the current owner of any common share at
22 this time. In other words, the owner of one acre who
23 currently holds one share of common stock would receive
24 one share of preferred stock; the owner of 500 acres,
25 currently owner of 500 shares of common stock, would

1 receive 500 shares of preferred stock. In that way,
2 dividends would be distributed in the same proportion that
3 the landowner has contributed over the years, since the
4 assessments have always been per acre.

5 Upon condemnation and dissolution, the proceeds
6 of compensation would be distributed in the same way,
7 again, proportionate to the amount to which each landowner
8 has contributed over the years. This should meet with the
9 IRS's requirements that the interests of the existing
10 shareholders are maintained.

11 Another condition for a tax-exempt
12 reorganization is that control of the company must remain
13 in the hands of the same shareholders who have shares in
14 the original company. By granting voting power to the
15 owners of preferred shares, as already planned and
16 described, both by Mr. Brophy in the memorandum and in the
17 Proposed Restated Articles of Incorporation and new
18 bylaws, ^{the existing shareholders would lose control.} the board would decide, on its own, whether or not
19 to grant the owners of preferred shares voting rights.

20 Since the board members are the most likely
21 buyers of the preferred shares, or recipients of the
22 preferred shares, it is expected that they would give
23 themselves voting power. Thus, control of the company by
24 the existing shareholders would be completely lost. In
25 particular, one should consider that the applicant is

1 submitting a Proposed Restated Articles of Incorporation
2 which include the issuance of 10 million shares of common
3 stock and 10 million shares of preferred stock.

4 The specifics of distribution upon dissolution
5 have been addressed previously and I will only allude to
6 them here briefly because I have no doubt that this will
7 stand up in any court of law, and if we have not been able
8 to convince the court, I can only refer the court again to
9 A.R.S. §10-11405, which clearly states that a nonprofit
10 may transfer its assets to its members on dissolution.

11 Again, the Corporation Commission is free to
12 ask for an attorney general's opinion on this matter, but
13 common sense would seem to dictate that there is no
14 property in this state that is not owned by somebody. If
15 Adaman were to cease to exist today, the assets of Adaman
16 would not go to the state; the assets of Adaman would not
17 go to Mr. Brophy or Ms. Van Quathem; the assets of the
18 company would not go to the Board of Directors; but rather
19 the assets, after satisfaction of outstanding obligations,
20 et cetera, would be distributed to the members to the same
21 extent that each member has an interest in the company.

22 Assessments have always been per acre and no
23 one disputes and no one is asking for any more than their
24 fair share of the equity of the company.

25 The reasons given for the possible need for

1 issuance of preferred shares, that of being able to raise
2 additional funds for additional development, et cetera, or
3 the assertion made, rings hollow, in that with six wells
4 operational, Adaman will be taking in \$780,000 a year, at
5 no additional cost to itself; with seven wells operating,
6 Adaman will be taking in \$910,000 a year, again, at no
7 cost to itself, since Goodyear will pay for all the
8 administrative expenses, maintenance expenses, et cetera,
9 of the wells, which it will be using. The figures quoted
10 above are net to the company. This is based on
11 Mr. Scofield's statement to the court on August 17th, that
12 each well would be expected to bring \$130,000 of income to
13 the company. Thus, one can see a need for preferred
14 shares, but only to dispose of excess income, not
15 necessarily to grow the company.

16 Surely, those members of the board who are
17 planning on leaving are not planning on continuing to grow
18 the company, since it is doubtful that they have any plans
19 to remain involved with the company at all. Those who^{of us}
20 remain, however, would like to consider additional
21 amenities to the community, such as wastewater treatment
22 for those parcels that are considered zoned commercial.

23 Some of the current shareholders have also
24 discussed a spin-off of a solar-producing facility, since
25 all of our acreage is large and much of the acreage is

1 very restricted in its use because of the proximity to
2 Luke Air Force Base and the F-35s which are expected in a
3 few years. It will be almost impossible for residents to
4 continue living with the F-35s. Converting the land to
5 solar collection would be one means of increasing property
6 values, but also would make a fair and productive use of
7 the land, not only for the interests of the members, but
8 the community at large.

9 In closing, because of the period of time
10 between the date of the vote and September 2010, the vote
11 should be held to be null and invalid. With additional
12 information, in particular with the additional information
13 which was specifically withheld from the voters at the
14 time, there is no doubt that a significant proportion of
15 the votes for the Plan of Reorganization would be reversed
16 if taken at this time.

17 The instrument used by the applicant in its
18 application, Exhibit 1, the agreement and Plan of
19 Reorganization is significantly incorrect and different
20 from that which was signed by the voters on 4/7/09, and
21 because of the many points enumerated above, the
22 application for issuance of stock should be denied at this
23 time.

24 The court is, of course, at leisure to order a
25 special meeting, per §10-3703. This meeting should be

1 held after consultation with outside counsel (other than
2 the board's counsel), with respect to the proposed
3 reorganization, and a vote would be under the appropriate
4 conditions (eligibility, access to members' lists,
5 et cetera) could be taken again. If everyone agrees to
6 the outcome of the meeting, the approval of issuance of
7 stock could then be done rather quickly.

8 In any case, the holders of common stock are
9 not relinquishing their equity in the company, and at this
10 time a separate reorganization is contemplated in the
11 fashion which would be acceptable to the state and the
12 IRS, with the above situation concerning preferred shares,
13 i.e., that one share be issued per share of common stock.

14


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17 Respectfully submitted, this 23rd day of September, 2010.

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LISE A. LaBARRE

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22 AN ORIGINAL AND 13 COPIES OF THE
23 ABOVE FILED SEPTEMBER 23, 2010, with

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25 DOCKET CONTROL
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Exhibit 1

Application for Approval to Issue Stock, coverpage; and pages 1 and 2 of the Appended Agreement, which is incorrect in that it does not reflect the language of the vote submitted to the membership, that being an "Amended" vote, with differences as to "Effective Time", adding certain conditions and limitations.

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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
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10 Attorneys for Adaman Mutual Water Company

11 **BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**

12 **IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF**
13 **ADAMAN MUTUAL WATER COMPANY FOR**
14 **APPROVAL TO ISSUE STOCK**

Docket No. W-01997A-09-0297

15 **FIRST AMENDED APPLICATION**
16 **FOR APPROVAL TO ISSUE**
17 **STOCK PURSUANT TO THE**
18 **AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF**
19 **REORGANIZATION**

20 Adaman Mutual Water Company ("Adaman"), an Arizona non-profit corporation,
21 pursuant to Ariz. Rev. Stat. ("A.R.S.") §§ 40-301 and 40-302, submits this Amended
22 Application requesting the Commission's approval of Adaman's Agreement and Plan of
23 Reorganization, as amended, (the "Plan of Reorganization"), to be effective as of January 1,
24 2010,¹ and the approval of Adaman's issuance of 2,486.68 shares of common stock in
25 conjunction with Adaman's Plan of Reorganization as a for-profit Arizona corporation. (A true

26 ¹Adaman requests that the order issued by the Commission approving the Plan of Reorganization be effective as
27 of January 1, 2010, in order to avoid filing two tax returns for 2009, and to simplify accounting and financial
28 record keeping. If the Commission's order were to become effective during 2009, Adaman would have a short
tax year as a non-profit corporation and a short tax year as a for-profit corporation.

AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF REORGANIZATION

THIS AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF REORGANIZATION ("Agreement"), is entered into as of the 7th day of April, 2009, by and between Adaman Mutual Water Company, an Arizona nonprofit corporation (the "Corporation") and the members of the Corporation ("Members").

Recitals

A. The Corporation was incorporated on November 23, 1943, as a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the state of Arizona.

B. The Corporation's primary purpose is to construct and operate a water distribution system for the delivery of water to its Members. The land described below, and any additional property annexed by the Corporation in accordance with the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and any rules or regulations adopted by the Corporation, less any property condemned by applicable governmental authority or otherwise removed from its service areas, shall be known as the Adaman Reclamation Project. The Members currently own interests in the Corporation in proportion to the number of acres of real property within the following described area.

The East Half of Section 1, 12 and 13, Township 2 North, Range 2 West, of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, and Sections 6, 7 and 18, Township 2 North, Range 1 West, of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, in Maricopa County, Arizona, containing 2,880 acres more or less, except any and all parcels owned by the federal government (hereinafter, the foregoing area is referred to as the "Project").

C. The Corporation has filed tax returns as a tax-exempt mutual irrigation organization under Section 509(c)(12) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code"), as amended.

D. The Board of Directors of the Corporation has determined that due to changes in the manner in which the Corporation conducts its business, the Corporation will likely lose its status as a tax-exempt organization, and that the Corporation would better serve the interests of its Members by reorganizing pursuant to the provisions of Section 368(a)(1)(E) of the Code to become a taxable "C" corporation.

E. Accordingly, the Board of Directors has determined that it is in the best interest of the Corporation and its Members to submit this Agreement to the Members for their consideration and action.

F. At the Effective Time of this Agreement, the Membership Interests in the Corporation held by the Members will be automatically converted to shares of the Corporation's no par value Common Stock (the "Shares") in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation attached hereto as Exhibit A, so that each

Member shall receive in uncertificated form, that number of shares of Common Stock that are equal to the number of whole and fractional acres (rounded to two decimal places) of real property owned by such Member within the Project, and the Membership Interest shall be extinguished.

G. This Agreement does not affect any rights of members of the Adaman Irrigation Water Delivery District.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants set forth herein and in the Exhibits hereto, the Corporation and the Members hereby agree as follows:

Agreement

1. *Amendment of Articles of Incorporation.* Upon approval of this Agreement by a two thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast by the Corporation's Members, the Members shall be deemed to have approved and authorized the filing of the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation attached hereto as Exhibit A. Such Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation shall be executed by the President and Secretary of the Corporation, and shall be filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("ACC") promptly following approval of this Agreement by the Members. Such Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation shall be the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation until such time as such Articles are fully amended.

2. *Amendment of Bylaws.* At the Effective Time, the Corporation's Second Amended and Restated Bylaws, attached hereto as Exhibit B, shall constitute the Bylaws of the Corporation, and the approval of this Agreement by a two thirds (2/3) majority of the Members' votes cast shall constitute the Members' ratification of the Amendment and Restatement of the Bylaws.

3. *Board of Directors.* At the Effective Time, the duly elected members of the Board of Directors shall continue to be the directors of the Corporation, and shall continue to serve for the term set forth in the Corporation's Bylaws until their successors are duly qualified and elected.

4. *Effective Time.* This Agreement shall become effective upon the last to occur of: (i) approval of this Agreement by the Board of Directors of the Corporation; (ii) approval of this Agreement by a two thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast by the Members of the Corporation; or (iii) the filing of the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation with the ACC (the "Effective Time").

5. *Name.* At the Effective Time, the name of the Corporation shall continue to be Adaman Mutual Water Company.

6. *Exchange of Membership Interests for Common Stock.* At the Effective Time, without any action on the part of any Member or of the Corporation, each issued and outstanding Membership interest in the Corporation shall be deemed to have been exchanged for that number of shares of Common Stock specified in the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation so that each former Member of the Corporation shall become the owner of that number of shares of Common Stock that is equal to the number of whole and fractional acres (rounded to two

Exhibit I

Agreement, as voted upon by the membership, 4/7/09

FIRST AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF REORGANIZATION

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF REORGANIZATION ("First Amendment") is entered into as of the 7th day of April, 2009, by and between Adaman Mutual Water Company, an Arizona nonprofit corporation (the "Corporation") and the members of the Corporation ("Members").

Recitals

A. The Corporation was incorporated on November 23, 1943 as a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of Arizona.

B. The Corporation and the Members entered into that certain Agreement and Plan of Reorganization effective as of April 7th, 2009 ("Agreement"), pursuant to which the Corporation converted from a nonprofit to a for-profit corporation.

C. The Corporation and the Members wish to amend the Agreement pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises set forth in this First Amendment, the Corporation and the Members hereby agree as follows:

Amendment

1. Effective Time. Section 4 of the Agreement is deleted in its entirety and the following substituted therefore:

4. Effective Time. This Agreement shall become effective upon the last to occur of: (i) approval of this Agreement by the Board of Directors of the Corporation; (ii) approval of this Agreement by a two thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast by the Members of the Corporation; (iii) the filing of the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation with the ACC, or (iv) approval of this Plan and the transactions contemplated hereby by the ACC; provided that in no event shall the Plan become effective, unless an order is entered by the ACC, as required by law, authorizing the Plan and the transactions contemplated hereby (the "Effective Time").

Voted
on

2. Effect of First Amendment. Unless otherwise defined in this First Amendment, all capitalized terms shall have the same meaning set forth in the Agreement. All terms and conditions of the Agreement which are not contrary to this First Amendment, shall remain in full force and effect, and are incorporated herein by this reference. This First Amendment shall control over any contrary or inconsistent terms in the Agreement.

This First Amendment was APPROVED and EXECUTED by the Members of the Corporation as of the date first written above.

ADAMAN MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

16251 W. Glendale Avenue
Litchfield Park, AZ 85340
Telephone 623 935-2837

April 7, 2009

Members of Adaman Mutual Water Company

Re: First Amendment to Agreement and Plan of Reorganization

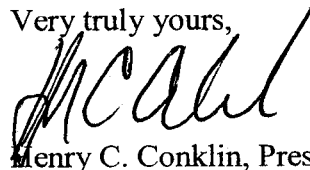
Dear Member:

You have previously received from the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Adaman Mutual Water Company (the "Company") materials addressing the proposed Agreement and Plan of Reorganization (the "Plan") that will reorganize the Company from a nonprofit, tax exempt corporation to a regular corporation, that is not tax exempt.

The Board originally did not anticipate that approval of the Plan by the Arizona Corporation Commission ("ACC") would be required. Since mailing our proxy information, the Board has been advised by its legal counsel that the ACC must approve the Plan, and the transactions contemplated thereby. To implement the Plan, the ACC must issue an order authorizing the Company to issue the stock in exchange for Membership Interests.

At today's meeting, the Board will be proposing that the Company's members approve a First Amendment to the Plan (the "First Amendment"). The First Amendment provides that the Plan will not become effective until it is approved by the ACC. A copy of the First Amendment is attached to this letter for your review. The First Amendment will be considered and voted on only after the Plan is approved. The Board does not anticipate that the ACC will disapprove the Plan. The Plan and the First Amendment must be approved by a 2/3 majority of the Member votes cast, or a majority of the voting power, whichever is less.

Very truly yours,



Henry C. Conklin, President

Exhibit 3

Memorandum of 4/3/09, previously submitted in file, added for convenience of the reader. Too many misstatements to address, not relevant (misstatements, misrepresentations); only relevance is assurance that ACC had to approve the Plan of ReOrganization

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 3, 2009
To: Members, Adaman Mutual Water Company
From: Board of Directors, Adaman Mutual Water Company
Subject: Adaman Mutual Water Company: Response to Letter from Lisa LaBarre, M.D.

This memorandum responds to issues raised in a letter sent to the Members of Adaman Mutual Water Company (the "Company") by Lisa LaBarre, M.D. Dr. LaBarre's letter is misleading and in a number of respects either misunderstands or mischaracterizes the reasons the Board of Directors (the "Board") has recommended the Company be reorganized as a for-profit corporation. The Q&A's the Board distributed to Members were intended to address the very issues that Dr. LaBarre has raised. To assist members in better understanding why we have recommended that the Plan of Reorganization be adopted, we have directed that the following information be sent to each Member.

Q1: What are the reasons the Board has recommended changing the Company from a nonprofit corporation to a for-profit corporation?

A: As presently organized, the Company cannot make distributions to its Members. The Company can only deliver water to persons located within the Project Area the Company services. The Company cannot even become a cooperative.² If the Company's water facilities were to be condemned, Members would be unable to participate in or benefit from condemnation proceeds. The Company would also be unable to contract with the City of Goodyear to sell excess water. For these reasons, we believe that the change is necessary. We believe it is possible that at some point in the future, the Company's facilities may be condemned and in that event, its Members should benefit.

Q2: Will the proposed changes give Members fewer rights than they have today?

A: No. Members will have greater rights under the reorganized Company. As the Company is currently organized, Members do not have the right to exercise cumulative voting for the election of directors. Each Member has as many votes as the Member owns acres within the project. If the new Plan of Reorganization is approved, Members will be able to cumulate their votes in the election of directors.¹

Q3: Why does the reorganized Company allow the shareholders one vote per acre?

¹ This gives minority members greater voting rights when it comes to the election of directors.

A: Historically, the Company's charter documents (Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws) have provided one vote per acre of land owned within the Project Area. This is the same method of voting that applies to the Salt River Project and to many other agricultural districts. If the Company is reorganized from a nonprofit to a for-profit corporation, I.R.S. rules require that there must be a continuity of interest in order for the reorganization to be tax-free. By maintaining the same one vote per acre structure, that continuity of interest is preserved for tax purposes, thus helping to assure that the reorganization is tax-free. If Dr. LaBarre's suggestions were adopted, the Company would likely not be able to effect a tax-free reorganization. *I never made any suggestion.*

Q4: What Bylaws govern the business of the Company?

A: Dr. LaBarre incorrectly states that the Company is operating under its old Bylaws. The Company's old Bylaws, as well as the new Bylaws, allow the Board to amend, repeal and adopt new Bylaws. This is true for most corporations. The Board has adopted new Bylaws. In an effort to keep Members advised of the Board's actions, we elected to submit those Bylaws to the Members and to have the Members ratify the Bylaws adoption. This was not required by law. Dr. LaBarre is criticizing us for being open with the Members of the Company.

Q5: If the Plan of Reorganization is adopted, will the Company be authorized to issue Preferred Bonds?

A: Dr. LaBarre's letter incorrectly states that the Plan of Reorganization would allow the Company to issue Preferred Bonds. Bonds are debt, not equity. Preferred Stock has rights that are lesser than and subordinate to, debt. The Plan of Reorganization would allow the Company to issue Preferred Stock, which is a form of equity. The Company would only issue Preferred Stock if it needed to do so to finance the development and build out of its water system or make other capital improvements. Virtually all corporations that are "for profit" have the ability, by law, to issue Preferred Stock, as long as the Company's articles of incorporation so provide. Our legal counsel suggested that we have this right in the event it might be necessary in the future. There is nothing unusual in providing that the Company may issue Preferred Stock if the Board determines it is appropriate to do so. This is the same function that a Board performs in any company, including some of the largest in the country.

*Only?
more likely
to distribute
dividends)*

Q6: Dr. LaBarre's letter seems to assume that shares of common stock may be transferred separate from the land. Is this correct? *not in my letter at all*

*attempt
to
discredit*

A: No. Shares of common stock of the Company can only be transferred with the land. The Board is authorized to determine whether Preferred Stock, if ever issued, will be subject to the same restrictions.

x Q7: If the Plan of Reorganization is approved, what role will the Arizona Corporation Commission ("ACC") play?

A: If the Plan of Reorganization is approved, the Company will still be subject to the jurisdiction of the ACC. In fact, our legal counsel has told us that the ACC must approve the Plan of Reorganization before it can be implemented. Consequently, if the Plan is approved, we will submit the Plan to the ACC for its approval. The ACC will want to assure that the rates charged for delivery of the Company's water are fair, and if the Company is able to profit from the contract with Goodyear, the ACC will likely require that the Company reduce its rates to water users. Thus, there will be no change in the manner in which the Company is regulated, and the Company may, in fact, be subject to more stringent regulation.

Q8: Dr. LaBarre's letter suggests that the Board conducts business in secret. Is this accurate?

A: No. The Board conducts business in the manner that every other board of a corporation conducts business. This means that the Board sets forth an agenda, votes on those matters, and periodically sends reports to the Members regarding the action taken by the Board. There is an open nomination process for naming director nominees.

Q9: Dr. LaBarre characterizes the past vacancies on the Board and change in the size of the Board from seven to five as tightening of control. Why were there vacancies, and why the change?

A: The Board has had difficulty finding others to serve as directors. Due to this difficulty, the new Bylaws provide for five, instead of seven directors, in order to avoid having continual vacancies. Under the proposed Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation, however, the Bylaws may be amended to increase the number of directors up to thirteen, where under the old Articles of Incorporation the Board may only have a maximum of seven directors.

Q10: Why does Dr. LaBarre suggest that a member derivative suit might be appropriate?

A: Dr. LaBarre's suggestion that a member derivative suit might be appropriate is difficult to understand. What the Board is asking the Members to do is to approve the Plan of Reorganization. *If the Plan of Reorganization is approved, it will only be with the Member's consent.* Any derivative suit would apparently be aimed at preventing the Members from considering and voting upon the Plan of Reorganization and would simply deny Members their rights.

(?)
illogical
statement

Derivative suits are difficult to bring, expensive and frequently benefit no one but the lawyers. We simply do not understand Dr. LaBarre's comments in this regard.

Exhibit 4

Proxy Ballot used for 4/7/09 Vote, valid for 11 months

PROXY
ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

April 7, 2009

**Adaman Mutual Water Company
16251 West Glendale Avenue
Litchfield Park, Arizona 85340**

**THIS PROXY IS SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
ADAMAN MUTUAL WATER COMPANY**

The undersigned hereby appoints Stan Ashby and Kelvin Moss, and each of them, as proxies of the undersigned, with the power of substitution, who may act together or alone to vote as designated below, or if no designation is made, then to exercise discretion to vote the membership interests (the "Interests") of Adaman Mutual Water Company (the "Company"), which the undersigned is entitled to vote, at the Annual Meeting of Members to be held Tuesday, April 7, 2009, or at any adjournment thereof, for the purposes of: (i) considering and acting on a proposal to approve the Agreement and Plan of Reorganization by and between the Company and the Members of the Company, which provides for the reorganization of the Company from a nonprofit corporation to a taxable "C" corporation, and the conversion of each outstanding membership interest into shares of Common Stock of the Company upon consummation of the reorganization; and (ii) electing the Board of Directors. A vote to approve the Agreement and Plan of Reorganization is also be a vote to approve adoption of the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company, and to ratify adoption of the Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company.

This Proxy, when properly completed, will be voted in the manner you direct. **If no designation is made, this Proxy will be voted for the approval of the Plan of Reorganization and for the election of each of the directors listed below to the Board of Directors.**

Item 1. Approval of Agreement and Plan of Reorganization and Amended and Restated Articles

The Board of Directors of the Company recommends a vote **FOR** the proposal to approve the Agreement and Plan of Reorganization and to approve the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company.

The Proxies are instructed to vote the Interests as follows with regard to the approval of the Agreement and Plan of Reorganization: **(Circle one)**

FOR

AGAINST

ABSTAIN

Exhibit 5 , in violation of 10-3720 (4)

1. ARS 10-3720
2. Denial by Mr Schofield, who signed my hand-written note, as he used the FACT law (vs commercial use of public utility mailing lists), of the "membership list", as defined in 10-3720; Mr Schofield was aware this was not for commercial use, as I had had requested same prior to meeting of 3/2/10, and had been verbally denied, the FACT ACT cited as a reason. Found out FACT ACT irrelevant to my request, requested again.
3. List of parcel numbers, acres (no specification as to whether eligible to vote or not. (10-3720 specifies "number of votes each member is entitled to vote"), along with name of owner(s) offered instead of "membership list".

Absolutely not acceptable.

ARTICLE 2. VOTING

§ 10-3720. Members' list for meeting

A. After fixing a record date for a meeting, a corporation shall prepare an alphabetical list of the names of all of its members who are entitled to notice of the meeting. The list shall show the address and number of votes each member is entitled to vote at the meeting. The corporation shall prepare on a current basis through the time of the membership meeting another list of members, if any, who are entitled to vote at the meeting, but not entitled to notice of the meeting and the corporation shall prepare that list on the same basis and make it a part of the list of members.

B. For the purpose of communication with other members concerning the meeting the corporation shall make the list of members available for inspection by any member at the corporation's principal office or at another place identified in the meeting notice in the city where the meeting will be held. On written demand a member, a member's agent or a member's attorney may inspect and, subject to the limitations of § 10-11602, subsection C, and § 10-11605, may copy the list, during regular business hours and at the member's expense, during the period it is available for inspection.

C. The corporation shall make the list of members available at the meeting, and any member, a member's agent or a member's attorney may inspect the list at any time during the meeting or during any adjournment.

D. If the corporation refuses to allow a member, a member's agent or a member's attorney to inspect the list of members before or at the meeting or copy the list as permitted by subsection B of this section, the court in the county where a corporation's principal office is located, or if no principal office is located in this state, the court in the county where a corporation's known place of business is located, on application of the member, may summarily order the inspection or copying at the corporation's expense and may postpone the meeting for which the list was prepared until the inspection or copying is complete.

E. Refusal or failure to comply with this section does not affect the validity of any action taken at the meeting.

F. The articles of incorporation or bylaws of a corporation organized primarily for religious purposes may limit or abolish the rights of a member under this section to inspect and copy any corporate record.

Added by Laws 1997, Ch. 205, § 5, eff. Jan. 1, 1999.

Historical and Statutory Notes

Reviser's Notes:

1997 Note. Pursuant to authority of § 41-1304.02, in subsection B, first sentence the words "For the purpose of communication with other members concerning the meeting" were transposed to follow "B." and in the second

sentence the words "On written demand" were transposed to the beginning of the sentence and the references to "§ 10-11602" and "§ 10-11605" were substituted for the references to "§ 10-31602" and "§ 10-31605", respectively, to conform to the reviser's renumbering of those sections.

Addresses of parents not released

2nd day
to compliance = FACT Legislation
(part of Privacy Act)

requirements. Mr Schofield understands that

request is not for commercial use
upon "usual" customary
(Public Request Forms)
(- used by State, Cities
+ various City)

Shofield

3-11-10 11:58



Company Manager

Dave Schofield

(acting
per advice of counsel,
according to D.S.)

ADAMAN I.W.D.D. # 36

Parcel Data Report by Parcel

Report Date Range From 2/20/2010 to 3/22/2010

Sample page
page 1 of 13

Parcel #	# of Acres	Customer Number	Customer Name
501-02-001	0.11	ADAI RR	Adaman I.W.D.D. No. 36
501-02-002	8.22	ADAI RR	Adaman I.W.D.D. No. 36
501-02-005A	40.21	TOWCEN	Saribeth, LLC Town Cntr Cr
501-02-005B	35.40	ASHINV	Ashby Land, LLC
501-02-006A	9.39	BLALES	One Six Six Zero One W Bet
501-02-006B	28.15	BLAJAC	Jacky & Rebbecca Blake
501-02-007C	2.07	ABENOR	NBA Trust & Enterprises LT
501-02-007D	38.64	PETPET	Peter Peter Cotton Tail, LLC
501-02-007E	72.76	EVEVEG	Everkrisp Vegetable Compa
501-02-007F	0.63	CITGOO	City of Goodyear
501-02-007G	1.97	ABENOR	NBA Trust & Enterprises LT
501-02-010E	8.82	EMAMAH	Mahmoud Emadi
501-02-010G	4.75	ESPILA	Espilanda, LLC
501-02-010H	3.63	ESPILA	Espilanda, LLC
501-02-010J	20.38	SMTINV	S.M.T. Investors
501-02-010K	18.67	SMTINV	S.M.T. Investors
501-02-010L	17.24	SMTINV	S.M.T. Investors
501-03-001	0.05	ADAI RR	Adaman I.W.D.D. No. 36
501-03-002	0.06	ADAI RR	Adaman I.W.D.D. No. 36
501-03-003	5.45	ADAI RR	Adaman I.W.D.D. No. 36
501-03-004B	2.09	ROBROD	Ronald Roberts
501-03-004C	1.93	FRYMIK	Michael W. & Barbara Frye
501-03-004D	1.38	CAMCHA	Chad Campbell
501-03-004F	61.53	FREFRY	French Fries, LLC
501-03-004G	10.97	FRYROB	Frye Family, LLLP
501-03-005A	3.01	SUNCOR	SunCor Development
501-03-005B	35.99	KAKER	Kakerlee, LLC
501-03-006A	3.75	MARJOH	John Marks
501-03-006B	67.39	PHXDRE	Phoenix Dream Works, LLC
501-03-007	36.29	FOULEA	Four Leaf Operations, LLC

↑
acres - not
eligible votes

13 pages
of this

Exhibit 6

Letter to Board, 11/12/08, requesting a General (Special)
Meeting, prior to the vote of 4/7/09.

Purpose would have been to inform electorate, get their ideas, etc.
wrt a change in corporate status.

The paragraph highlighted (*) was my attempt to find out if
Commercial for-profit companies can vote or not. (ie, SRP-can't)
(not in non-profit part of Co)
No direct response obtained ("no annexations planned").

Adaman Mutual Water Company

Board of Directors' Meeting

November 12, 2008

Adaman Mutual Water Company,,
Board of Directors,
16251 West Glendale Avenue,
Litchfield Park, AZ

Dear Madam, Sirs,

Having conducted a brief survey by mail of the wishes of the members/shareholders of the Adaman Water Company,, I respectfully request the scheduling of a General Meeting of the membership, *prior to the final formulation of the amendments to the Bylaws.

In particular, topics which members would like to have addressed are (but not limited to):

The adoption of formal Open Meetings Laws, similar to that which government agencies are subject to.

The possible directions the Water Company may wish to address, such as the conversion to a regular for-profit corporation. If we have a valued asset, why should it not benefit the entire community? This could help preclude condemnation?

* A temporary moratorium on further annexation(s) to the Company, until we have determined how to deal with large commercial parcels so that one or two commercial entities don't determine the fate of our Company. That would of course not preclude us from selling domestic water to anyone the Company feels it can and wishes to sell to.

Consideration of a differential in water rates, residential vs commercial, vs industrial? (agricultural concerns, always a priority, are perhaps already addressed by AIWDD, but perhaps one could make a case for dairies to have a preferred rate, wrt their domestic water?)

Depending on commitment expressed, as well as costs incurred, consideration of holding the Yearly Meeting outside regular work hours, to encourage attendance?

May we anticipate a response within the next few weeks? Needless to say, the amendments necessary for the Goodyear project could be addressed at the same time, in order to proceed with the latter?

Respectfully submitted November 12th, 2008,

by Lise A. LaBarre, member/shareholder.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lise A. LaBarre", written over a horizontal line.

Lise A. LaBarre, M.D.

Exhibit 7

Op Att'y Gen. 62-55-L (1962)

Applicant's legal basis for Reorganizing by Amendment to the
Articles of Incorporation.

Case deals with converting from "profit" to "non-profit."

Applicant presumes corollary is true.

JOHN CASEY- Originator
ANDY BAUMERT - } Concurred
AL LARSON }
CLARK KENNEDY }

May 11, 1962

Letter Opinion No. 62-55-L

X REQUESTED BY: Honorable Jack Buzard, Commissioner
Arizona Corporation Commission

OPINION BY: The Attorney General

QUESTION: Can a corporation previously formed under Chapter 1, Article 2, Title 10, Arizona Revised Statutes, at a later date amend its Articles of Incorporation to conform with Chapter 1, Article 16, Title 10, Arizona Revised Statutes, and thus become a legally-constituted non-profit corporation?

CONCLUSION: Yes.

19 C.J.S. § 1584 states in part:

"Corporations may and sometimes do, effect their own reorganization, and this without being reincorporated. This may properly be accomplished by an amendment to the Corporate Charter properly approved by the requisite vote of the stockholders."

A.R.S. § 10-321 states:

§ 10-321. Amendment of articles; change in amount of capital stock; notice

Subject to the provisions of the articles of incorporation the capital stock of a corporation may be increased or decreased, and the articles of incorporation, which for the purposes of this section only, shall include any and all certificates filed pursuant to § 10-152.01, may be amended by the affirmative vote of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of stock of the corporation. Articles of incorporation may be amended to include any provision which might lawfully be inserted in articles of incorporation filed for the first time at the date of such amendment. At least thirty days notice in writing of the proposed increase or decrease or the proposed amendment shall be given the shareholders of the corporation. As amended, Laws 1958, Ch. 22, § 3. (Emphasis supplied)

A.R.S. § 10-322 states:

§ 10-322. Formal requirements for amendment.

Amendments shall be signed and acknowledged by the president and attested by the secretary of the

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ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL

Honorable Jack Buzard, Commissioner
Arizona Corporation Commission

62-55-1

May 11, 1962
Page Two

corporation, and shall be filed, recorded and published, as required for the original articles of incorporation.

A.R.S. § 10-321, quoted above, grants to a corporation the right to amend its articles of incorporation, and A.R.S. §10-322 sets forth the formal requirements for such amendment. If the articles of incorporation are amended so as to conform with the statutory requirements of a non-profit corporation as set forth in Chapter 1, Article 16, Title 10, Arizona Revised Statutes, and such amendment is properly approved by the requisite vote of the stockholders, we are of the opinion that such corporation thus becomes a legally-constituted non-profit corporation.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT W. PICKRELL
The Attorney General

JOHN J. CASEY
Assistant Attorney General

JJC:lf
R-271

Exhibit

ARS 10-11101 - 10-11103 (added 1999)

Merger Laws pertaining to Non-Profits, merging together or into "a business". No specifics wrt to the "business" being non-profit (ie Goodwill type) or for profit ("C" corp.).

Relevance is that IRS now treats "mergers" as ReOrganizations, and vice-versa.

Although not directly addressing a conversion from "non-profit" to "for-profit", if the "business" alluded to refers to a non-profit business, these nevertheless indicate some of the restrictions placed on non-profit mergers, wrt the number of voting members in the surviving corporation & the number of memberships allowed to participate in distributions in the surviving corporation (Preferred or other shares).

Going from 2468 current Common Stock shares to 10,000,000 and from zero Preferred Shares to 10,000,000 would not seem to be acceptable in a "merger" between a non-profit and a for-profit entity.

CHAPTER 34

MERGERS—NONPROFIT CORPORATIONS

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section

- 10-11101. Approval of plan of merger.
- 10-11102. Membership exchange.
- 10-11103. Action on plan by board, members and third persons.
- 10-11104. [Reserved].
- 10-11105. Articles of merger or membership exchange; publication.
- 10-11106. Effect of merger or membership exchange.
- 10-11107. Merger or exchange with other entities.
- 10-11108. Requests, devises and gifts.

Chapter 34, Mergers—Nonprofit Corporations, consisting of Article 1, §§ 10-11101 to 10-11108 (added as Article 1, §§ 10-31101 to 10-31108, by Laws 1997, Ch. 205, § 5, effective January 1, 1999), was transferred for placement here and renumbered by the reviser.

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 10-11101. Approval of plan of merger

A. One or more nonprofit corporations may merge into a business or nonprofit corporation if the board of directors of each corporation adopts, and, if required by § 10-11103, its members and other persons approve, a plan of merger.

B. The plan of merger shall set forth all of the following:

1. The name of each corporation planning to merge and the name of the surviving corporation into which each other corporation plans to merge.
2. The terms and conditions of the merger.
3. The manner and basis, if any, of converting memberships of each merging corporation into memberships, obligations or securities of the surviving or any other corporation or into cash or other property in whole or in part.

C. The plan of merger may set forth:

1. Amendments to the articles of incorporation of the surviving corporation.
2. Other provisions relating to the merger.

Added as § 10-31101 by Laws 1997, Ch. 205, § 5, eff. Jan. 1, 1999. Renumbered as § 10-11101.

Historical and Statutory Notes

Source:

Laws 1947, Ch. 35, § 2.
Code 1939, Supp. 1952, § 53-414.
A.R.S. former § 10-458.
A.R.S. former § 10-1038.
Laws 1979, Ch. 65, § 2.

A.R.S. former § 10-2381.
Laws 1994, Ch. 223, § 15.

Reviser's Notes:

1997 Note. The above chapter and the article and sections that comprise it were added by

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MERGERS—NONPROFIT CORPORATIONS

Ch. 34

§ 10-11102

Laws 1997, Ch. 205, sec. 5 as §§ 10-31101 through 10-31108 and were renumbered as §§ 10-11101 through 10-11108 pursuant to authority of § 41-1304.02.

11103" was substituted for the reference to "§ 10-31103" to conform to the reviser's renumbering of that section.

1997 Note. Pursuant to authority of § 41-1304.02, in subsection A the reference to "§ 10-

Cross References

Merger, general provisions, see § 10-1101.

Library References

Corporations Ⓒ585.
Westlaw Topic No. 101.
C.J.S. Corporations §§ 802, 804 to 806.

Research References

Treatises and Practice Aids

6 Arizona Practice § 2.234, Mergers.

§ 10-11102. Membership exchange

A. A corporation may acquire all of the outstanding memberships of one or more classes or series of another corporation if the board of directors of each corporation adopts, and, if required by § 10-11103, its members and other persons approve, the exchange.

B. The plan of exchange shall set forth all of the following:

1. The name of the corporation whose memberships will be acquired and the name of the acquiring corporation.

2. The terms and conditions of the exchange.

3. The manner and basis of exchanging the memberships to be acquired for memberships, obligations or other interests in the acquiring or any other corporation or for cash or other property in whole or in part.

C. The plan of exchange may set forth other provisions relating to the exchange.

D. This section does not limit the power of a corporation to acquire, and a corporation has the power and authority to acquire, all or part of the memberships of one or more classes or series of another corporation through a voluntary exchange or otherwise.

Added as § 10-31102 by Laws 1997, Ch. 205, § 5, eff. Jan. 1, 1999. Renumbered as § 10-11102.

Historical and Statutory Notes

Source:

Laws 1947, Ch. 35, § 2.
Code 1939, Supp.1952, § 53-414.
A.R.S. former § 10-458.
A.R.S. former § 10-1039.
Laws 1979, Ch. 65, § 2.

A.R.S. former § 10-2382.
Laws 1994, Ch. 223, § 15.

Reviser's Notes:

1997 Note. Pursuant to authority of § 41-1304.02, in subsection A the reference to "§ 10-11103" was substituted for the reference to

"§ 10-31103" to conform to the reviser's re-numbering of that section.

Cross References

Share exchange, see § 10-1102.

Library References

Corporations Ⓒ585.
Westlaw Topic No. 101.
C.J.S. Corporations §§ 802, 804 to 806.

Research References

Treatises and Practice Aids

6 Arizona Practice § 2.234, Mergers.

§ 10-11103. Action on plan by board, members and third persons

A. If the members of any merging corporation or other persons are entitled to vote on or approve the plan, except as provided in subsection G of this section, after adopting a plan of merger or membership exchange, the board of directors of the corporation shall submit the plan of merger or membership exchange for approval by its members and the other persons.

B. For a plan of merger or membership exchange to be approved all of the following shall have occurred:

1. The board of directors shall recommend the plan of merger or membership exchange to the members, unless the board of directors determines that because of a conflict of interest or other special circumstances it should not make a recommendation and communicates the basis for its determination to the members with the plan.

2. The members entitled to vote on the plan of merger or membership exchange shall approve the plan.

3. Each person whose approval is required by the articles of incorporation for a merger shall approve the plan in writing.

C. The board of directors may condition its submission of the proposed merger or membership exchange on any basis.

D. If the corporation submits the transaction for member action at a membership meeting, the corporation shall notify each member of the proposed membership meeting at which the plan of merger or membership exchange is to be submitted for approval in accordance with § 10-3705. The notice shall state that the purpose or one of the purposes of the meeting is to consider the plan of merger or membership and shall contain or be accompanied by a copy or summary of the plan.

E. Unless chapters 24 through 40 of this title,¹ the articles of incorporation or the board of directors acting pursuant to subsection C of this section requires a greater vote or voting by class, the plan of merger or membership exchange to be authorized shall be approved by a majority of the votes cast or a majority of the voting power of the class, whichever is less.

F. Voting by a class of members is required on a plan of merger or membership exchange if the plan contains a provision that, if contained in a proposed amendment to articles of incorporation or bylaws, would entitle the class of members to vote as a class on the proposed amendment under § 10-11004 or 10-11022. The plan is approved by a class of members by two-thirds of the votes cast by the class or a majority of the voting power of the class, whichever is less.

G. Unless the articles of incorporation otherwise require, action by the members of the surviving corporation on a plan of merger is not required if all of the following conditions exist:

1. The articles of incorporation of the surviving corporation will not differ, except for amendments enumerated in § 10-11002, from its articles of incorporation before the merger.

2. Each member of the surviving corporation who was a member immediately before the effective date of merger will hold the same number of memberships with identical designations, preferences, limitations and relative rights immediately after the effective date of merger.

3. The number of voting members existing immediately after the merger, plus the number of voting memberships issuable as a result of the merger, will not exceed more than twenty per cent the total number of voting memberships of the surviving corporation existing immediately before the merger.

4. The number of memberships, if any, that entitle the holders of the memberships to participate without limitation in distributions existing immediately after the merger, plus the number of participating memberships issuable as a result of the merger, will not exceed the total number of participating memberships existing immediately before the merger by more than ninety per cent.

H. At any time before the filing of the articles of merger, the plan of merger or membership exchange may be abandoned, subject to any contractual rights, without further action by the members or other persons who approved the plan, in accordance with the procedure set forth in the plan of merger or membership exchange or, if none is set forth, in the manner determined by the board of directors.

Added by as § 10-31103 Laws 1997, Ch. 205, § 5, eff. Jan. 1, 1999. Renumbered as § 10-11103.

¹ Sections 10-3101 et seq. through 10-11701 et seq.

Historical and Statutory Notes

Source:

Laws 1947, Ch. 35, § 2.
Code 1939, Supp.1952, § 53-414.
A.R.S. former § 10-458.
A.R.S. former § 10-1040.
Laws 1979, Ch. 65, § 2.
A.R.S. former § 10-2383.
Laws 1994, Ch. 223, § 15.

Reviser's Notes:

1997 Note. Pursuant to authority of § 41-1304.02, in subsection F the reference to "§ 10-11004 or 10-11022" was substituted for the reference to "§ 10-31004 or 10-31022" and in subsection G, paragraph 1 the reference to "§ 10-11002" was substituted for the reference to "§ 10-31002" to conform to the reviser's renumbering of those sections.